GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1366
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2002
SMUGGLING OF NARCOTICS
SHANKAR PRASAD JAISWAL;SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a two day International Narcotics StrategyMeeting, sponsored by the US, was held in February this yearin the Turkish Capital of Ankara and India also participated in the meeting;

(b) if so, the main issues discussed at the meeting; and

(c) the details of the decisions taken therein to prevent smuggling of narcotics?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN)

(a) Yes, Sir. The Regional Counter Narcotics Strategy Meeting, which was organized by the Turkish National Police and theUnited State Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), was held in the Turkish capital Ankara on 5-6 February, 2002.

(b) The main issue discussed was to evolve a strategy to counter drug trafficking and control issues with particular reference to the current and potential drug trafficking situation in and from Afghanistan in view of its changed political situation.

(c) Some specific recommendations/ decisions taken in the meeting to prevent smuggling of narcotics were
(i) evolving Information Sharing Systems against traffickers,

(ii) tightening control on precursor chemicals used for manufacturing of heroin,
(iii) encouraging Afghanistan to adopt the UN Convention of 1988 on Illicit Trafficking,

(iv) resource commitment on training and equipment,

(v) establishment of a floating committee,
(vi) to identify and target drug trafficking organizations through collective efforts and
(vii) to step up interdiction at borders and particularly target precursor movement.